

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00  
DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 STR-07  
ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-20 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15  
IO-14 GSA-02 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10  
/184 W

-----093740 120645Z /15/13

P R 110831Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0056

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 COLOMBO 1661

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (REFERENCE LINE CORRECTED)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ANRPC, ETRD, CE

SUBJ: ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL RUBBER PRODUCING COUNTRIES  
(ANRPC) ASSEMBLY, APRIL 7-8, 1978

REF: (A) KUALA LUMPUR 2524; (B) KUALA LUMPUR 2341;  
(C) STATE 66431; (D) COLOMBO 1095; (E) GENEVA 3285;  
(F) GENEVA 3286

1. SUMMARY: THE SIXTH ASSEMBLY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL  
RUBBER PRODUCING COUNTRIES (ANRPC) WAS HOSTED BY THE GOVERN-  
MENT OF SRI LANKA (GSL) APRIL 7-8, 1978. THE NEED FOR ASSOCIA-  
TION MEMBERS TO COOPERATE MORE CLOSELY AND COMBINE THEIR EFFORTS  
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TO INCREASE PRODUCTION WAS STRESSED THROUGHOUT THE MEETING.  
ALSO STRESSED, AND EVENTUALLY BECOMING THE FOCUS OF ALL  
ACTIVITY, WAS FORMULATION OF A DRAFT OF AN INTERNATIONAL  
NATURAL RUBBER PRICE STABILIZATION AGREEMENT (PSA). UPCOMING  
ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING IMPORTANT MEETINGS INVOLVING THE NATURAL  
RUBBER (NR) PRODUCERS AND THE MAJOR NR CONSUMING COUNTRIES,  
WERE DISCUSSED, DATES AND LOCATIONS DETERMINED, AND ALL WITHIN

THE CONTEXT OF THE PSA NEGOTIATION STRATEGY. A MEETING OF THE ANRPC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AT KUALA LUMPUR, A WORKSHOP SPONSORED BY THE ANRPC AND THE UNCTAD AT SINGAPORE, THAILAND AND MALAYSIA, AND A MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL RUBBER STUDY GROUP (IRSG) IN WASHINGTON, D.C. ARE EXPECTED TO BE THE SETTINGS FOR CONSIDERABLE PSA GROUNDWORK. END SUMMARY.

2. THE SIXTH ASSEMBLY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL RUBBER PRODUCING COUNTRIES (ANRPC) WAS OPENED BY MR. R.B. WEERAKOON, PERMANENT SECRETARY TO THE SRI LANKA MINISTRY OF PLANTATION INDUSTRIES AND CHAIRMAN OF THE ANRPC 6TH ASSEMBLY ORGANIZING COMMITTEE, WHO WAS LATER ELECTED ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN. OTHER OPENING CEREMONY SPEAKERS WERE MR. M.D.H. JAYEWARDENE, SRI LANKA MINISTER OF PLANTATION INDUSTRIES AND MR. SYED ABDUL JABBAR SHAHABUDIN, ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ASSOCIATION. ALL THREE SPEAKERS STRESSED THREE AIMS OF THE ASSOCIATION WHICH WERE TO EMERGE AS DOMINANT THEMES OF THE ASSEMBLY. THEY WERE:

- (1) A PROGRAM OF "DYNAMIC PRODUCTION", I.E. ANRPC'S COMMITMENT TO AN ALL-OUT EFFORT TO PRODUCE IN GREATER QUANTITY, FASTER, AND TO PROVIDE WIDER PRODUCT DISTRIBUTION;
  - (2) CLOSER ASSOCIATION BETWEEN ANRPC MEMBERS, WITH EMPHASIS ON TECHNOLOGICAL EXCHANGE AND COOPERATION, AND
  - (3) NEGOTIATIONS OF AN INTERNATIONAL NATURAL RUBBER PRICE STABILIZATION AGREEMENT (PSA) BETWEEN NATURAL RUBBER PRODUCERS AND THE MAJOR CONSUMING COUNTRIES.
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3. QUOTED BELOW IS A PRESS RELEASE ON THE ASSEMBLY PROCEEDINGS: QUOTE: THE SIXTH ASSEMBLY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THE NATURAL RUBBER PRODUCING COUNTRIES (ANRPC) WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY DELEGATES FROM INDIA, INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, SINGAPORE, SRI LANKA, AND THAILAND, WAS DECLARED OPEN BY THE MINISTER OF PLANTATION INDUSTRIES, THE HONORABLE M.D.H. JAYAWARDENE, M.P. THE ASSEMBLY WAS PRECEDED BY TWO OTHER MEETINGS NAMELY, THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS AND THE SECOND MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL NATURAL RUBBER COUNCIL (INRC). THESE MEETINGS WERE HELD AT BANDARANAIKE MEMORIAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE HALL, COLOMBO, FROM 3 TO 8 APRIL 1978.

4. THE MINISTER OF PLANTATION INDUSTRIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA, THE HONORABLE M.D.H. JAYAWARDENE, M.P., IN HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS EXPRESSED HIS SATISFACTION FOR THE ANRPC'S CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATURAL RUBBER INDUSTRY. HE STATED THAT THE INTERNATIONAL NATURAL RUBBER PRICE STABILIZATION AGREEMENT COULD BE REGARDED AS THE BIGGEST ACHIEVEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION.

5. THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS REVIEWED THE DEVELOPMENT IN THE STUDIES ON FUTURE DEMAND FOR NATURAL RUBBER, SMALL HOLDER DEVELOPMENT AND EFFORTS RELATED TO ACHIEVING GREATER ACCURACY IN STATISTICAL DATA. WHILE THE COMMITTEE NOTD THE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS MADE IN ALL THESE AREAS, IT WAS DECIDED THAT THESE PROGRAMMES MUST REMAIN AS CONTINUING ONES WITH EVER GREATER THRUST. THE MOST IMPORTANT ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS REVOLVED AROUND THE PREPARATION OF A DRAFT PRODUCER TEXT FOR A WIDER INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON RUBBER.

6. THE MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL NATURAL RUBBER COUNCIL REVIEWED THE DEVELOPMENTS MADE AT UNCTAD ON THE BROADER AGREE-  
MENT ON RUBBER AND WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE PROGRESS MADE.

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7. THE SIXTH ASSEMBLY OF THE ANRPC UNANIMOUSLY ELECTED THE LEADER OF THE SRI LANKA DELEGATION, MR. R.B. WEERAKOON AS CHAIRMAN AND MR. MIRI SETAE, LEADER OF THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA DELEGATION AND MR. D. RAMANATHAN, LEADER OF THE DELEGATION OF INDIA AS THE FIRST AND SECOND VICE CHAIRMEN RESPECTIVELY.

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14  
EUR-12 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00  
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NSC-05 PA-02 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01  
TRSE-00 ICA-20 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 GSA-02  
/184 W

-----093374 120608Z /20

P R 110831Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0057  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY JAKRATA  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
USMISSUON GENEVA

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 8. CORRECTED)

8. THE ASSEMBLY REVIEWED THE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS, THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE UNCTAD DELIBERATIONS, REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL NATURAL RUBBER COUNCIL (INRC), INTERNATIONAL RUBBER RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD (IRRDB) AND INTERNATIONAL RUBBER ASSOCIATION (IRA) ACTIVITIES. THE ASSEMBLY NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THE PROGRESS MADE IN THESE AREAS AND DECIDED THAT THE MOMENTUM CREATED SHOULD BE MAINTAINED ON ALL FRONTS. THE ASSEMBLY ENDORSED THE COOPERATIVE APPROACH OF THE IRRDB IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

9. THE ASSEMBLY ESTABLISHED AN ANRPC COMMITTEE ON MARKETING AND CONTRACTS TO COORDINATE AND CONSOLIDATE THE ANRPC APPROACH TO SUCH ACTIVITIES.

10. IN VIEW OF THE NEED TO ENSURE THAT THE ANRPC IS FULLY  
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REPRESENTATIVE OF ALL NATURAL RUBBER PRODUCING COUNTRIES, THE ASSEMBLY REQUESTED THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO ENSURE THAT ALL NATURAL RUBBER PRODUCING COUNTRIES ARE MADE AWARE OF THE AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE ANRPC.

11. THE ASSEMBLY PARTICULARLY TOOK NOTE OF THE PROGRESS MADE IN PREPARING A DRAFT PRODUCER TEXT FOR A WIDER AGREEMENT ON RUBBER UNDER UNCTAD INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR COMMODITIES. THE ASSEMBLY REQUESTED ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES TO ACCELERATE THEIR CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT NOW AVAILABLE AND FIXED APRIL 19-22 FOR A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO COMPLETE THE WORK ON THE TEXT.

12. THE ASSEMBLY TOOK NOTE OF THE FIELD TRIP AND WORKSHOP BEING ORGANIZED IN THE NATURAL RUBBER PRODUCING REGION BY ANRPC THROUGH UNCTAD FOR PRODUCING AND CONSUMING COUNTRIES.

13. THE ASSEMBLY APPOINTED DR. SUMARDI REKSOPUTRANTO AS THE NEW SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS.

14. THE ASSEMBLY RECORDED ITS APPRECIATION FOR THE EXCELLENT FACILITIES AND WARM HOSPITALITY EXTENDED TO DELEGATES, OBSERVERS AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA AND VARIOUS OTHER ORGANIZATIONS. THE ASSEMBLY ALSO RECORDED A VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIRMAN FOR THE ABLE MANNER IN WHICH HE HAD SUCCESSFULLY GUIDED THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY. END QUOTE.

15. REPORTS AND SPEECHES PRESENTED TO THE ASSEMBLY AND DISTRIBUTED TO OBSERVERS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETINGS APRIL 8 ARE BEING FOWARDED VIA AIR POUCH APRIL 12.

16. THE ANRPC, OBVIOUSLY PROUD OF ITS RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS,  
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STRESSED THE NEED TO MAINTAIN MOMENTUM AND MAKE "EVER GREATER STRIDES IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE" TOWARD THE ATTAINMENT OF THE GOALS STATED IN PARA 2 ABOVE. NEGOTIATIONS OF THE PRICE STABILIZATION AGREEMENT WITH THE CONSUMING COUNTRIES OBVIOUSLY HOLDS TOP PRIORITY AT THIS TIME. IN DISCUSSSLZY ZYWT  
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ACTIVITIES OF THE ANRPC, THE ORGANIZATION MADE IT CLEAR THAT EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO STAY WITHIN THE UNCTAD SCHEDULE FOR NEGOTIATIONS OF THE AGREEMENT. ITEMS WHICH IT IS ANTICIPATED WILL BE HIGHLIGHTS OF UPCOMING EVENTS WERE OUTLINED AS FOLLOWS:

(1) THE ANRPC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL MEET AT KUALA LUMPUR APRIL 19-22, 1978, TO FINALIZE THE PRODUCERS' DRAFT AGREEMENT. THE FINAL DRAFT WILL BE PASSED TO THE UNCTAD BY THE END OF APRIL AND THE UNCTAD IS EXPECTED TO FORWARD COPIES OF THE DRAFT TO MAJOR CONSUMING COUNTRIES AND INTERESTED ORGANIZATIONS IMMEDIATELY.

(2) THE UNCTAD AND ANRPC WILL SPONSOR A "FIELD WORKSHOP IN NATURAL RUBBER PRODUCING COUNTRIES" MAY 7-19. TO BE ATTENDED BY PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS, THE FIELD PORTION IS DESIGNED TO GIVE PARTICIPATNS THE OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW IN SITU RUBBER PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, AND MARKETING IN THAILAND, SINGAPORE AND MALAYSIA. THE FINAL THREE DAYS OF THE PROGRAM WILL BE DEVOTED TO AN INTENSIVE WORKSHOP AT KUALA LUMPUR. THE ANRPC IS EAGER TO HAVE BROAD REPRESENTATION BY PRODUCER AND CONSUMER COUNTRIES ALIKE AND ASKED THAT ALL ASSEMBLY PARTICIPATNS ENCOURAGE THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO SEND DELGATES. THE DEADLINE TO NOTIFY THE UNCTAD THAT A DELEGATION WILL ATTEND THE FIELD WORKSHOP IS APRIL 12. ALTHOUGH THE UNCTAD WILL SUBSEQUENTLY INFORM THE ANRPC WHICH DELEGATIONS WILL ATTEND, THE ANRPC HEADQUARTERS AT KAUAL LUMPUR HAS REQUESTED THAT THEY BE INFORMED AT THE SAME TIME AS THE UNCTAD SO THAT NECESSARY LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE UNDERTAKEN.

(3) IN DISCUSSION REGARDING THE TWENTY-FIFTH ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL RUBBER STUDY GOUP (IRSG), TO BE HELD AT WASHINGTON, D.C. JUNE 19-23, SEVERAL QUESTIONS WERE POSED  
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CONCERNING THE PROPRIETY OF THE IRSG TO STUDY THE ANRPC. IT

WAS DECIDED THAT THE QUESTIONS, AND THE FINDINGS OF AN ANRPC COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO STUDY THE MATTER, SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE IRSG AT THE WASHINGTON MEETING. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE IRSG MEETING WILL ALSO ALLOW AN OPPORTUNITY FOR COMPARISON AND INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENTS CONSUMING AND PRODUCING COUNTRIES WILL PRESENT AT THE NEGOTIAION SESSION IN THE FALL.

17. COMMENTS FOLLOW SEPTTEL.  
WRIGGINS

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## Message Attributes

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